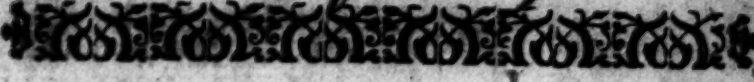
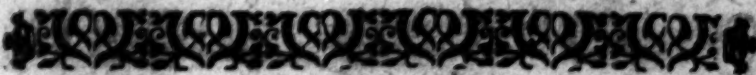


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SERIOUS
CONSIDERATIONS
On the Ensuing
ELECTION
OF A
LORD-MAYOR.



(Price Six-Pence.)

107
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The Hon. the Lord Mayor
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In Council
Resolved
That

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OF A
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THE HON. the Lord Mayor
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SERIOUS
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On the Ensuing
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LORD-MAYOR.

Together with some
REMARKS

On a late PAMPHLET, entitled,
An Address to the LIVERYMEN, &c.
A Letter and Advertisement in the *London Evening Post*, of the 15th of September, and another Letter in the same Paper of the 20th Instant, &c.

By a CITIZEN.

*Have we not Enemies plus satis
That Cane & Angue pejus hate us?
And shall we turn our Fangs and Claws
Upon our own selves without Cause? Hudibras.*

L O N D O N:

Printed for T. COOPER, at the Globe, in Pater-
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600

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CONSIDERATIONS

On the Evening

ELECTION

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Mr. Addicks to the LIVERMAN, &c.

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Evening Post, of the 1st of September, and

another Letter in the same Paper of the 20th

Instant, &c.

46

BY A CITIZEN.

116



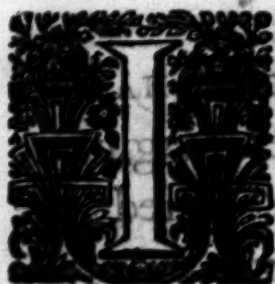
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MDCCLXXIX.



To the WORTHY
CITIZENS
OF
LONDON.
GENTLEMEN,



Should not have troubled you with my Sentiments in relation to the ensuing Election of our LORD MAYOR, had not divers *Applications* on that Head, made to you; by *Pamphlet, Paragraphs* and *Advertisements,*

vertisements, render'd it necessary, in order to obviate the false Reasonings, misrepresented Facts, and Scurilities of the Authors.

This I hoped a more capable Hand would have undertaken, and was silent for that Reason; and therefore I shall make no other Apology for my being unequal to the Task of advising so great and wise a Body, than that I have the Interest of the City at Heart.

Our undoubted Right by CHARTER of ELECTING our Chief Magistrate might very well have spared the *Pamphleteer's* great Pains to prove it, and our *constant Exercise* of that Right, acquits us from his harsh Reflections, for without both the
Right

Right itself, and the proper Exercise of it, our late Lord Mayors must have been *Usurpers* : This had the Author of the *Address* fully considered, he would not have employed his Pen in accusing us of “ *Lethargy, and of betraying the sacred Trust reposed in us,*” or in prompting us to any other Exercise of that Right which might produce *Innovations* detrimental to Society.

For he is himself forced to own, what every Citizen so happily Experiences, that the present Method of Election is productive of Peace and Harmony ; let us then see the Strength of his Objections to the pursuit of this laudable Custom that has filled the Chair with so many excellent *Prætors*.

His REASONS are briefly these,

First, That the worthy Magistrate next the Chair Voted for the *Convention*, and

Secondly, As he would insinuate, *Corruptly*.

Thirdly, The *Corrupt* Means employed by some, to be Elected *Aldermen*.

The two first of these Reasons I shall consider together, because nothing can render such a Vote Criminal but Corruption.

Without becoming an Advocate for the *Convention*, (the Proceedings of

of his *Catholick Majesty*, in my Opinion, not deserving so favourable Treatment) I may be allowed to say, from what we have been told, that there were several weighty Arguments offered in the two *great Councils* of the Nation, both for and against such *Convention*, which might perplex and render it difficult for a fair and unprejudiced Hearer, even one of great Capacity, to adjust, and such as 'twoud be hard to say might not defend the Conscience of his *Vote* on either Side.

This I think my self the more excusable in asserting, since the *Legislators* themselves were so *nearly divided* about it.

If

If such was the Case, 'twould be uncharitable not to suppose but that there were some, at least, who voted *conscientiously* for it; and of that Number 'tis highly reasonable to conclude the *Gentleman* next the *Chair* one, if we consider the whole Tenor of his *preceding Behaviour*, his *Station* in this City, and the *Honours* he expected from it: For I might appeal even to his worst Accusers, whether in the *Cause of Liberty*, and the *Service of this City*, they themselves have not often applauded his Zeal, and admired his Conduct.

But if, with some, these Considerations should not sufficiently plead his *Integrity* against mere *Imaginations*,

nations, let those Gentlemen further consider him to have acted uninfluenced by *Place*, but I cannot add free from the Suspicion of *Corruption*, because he has been most unjustly charged with it, and in such a manner too, that 'twas not in *his own Power* to acquit himself, but he was forced to rely on the Candor and Generosity of a *Brother*, with whom he had the greatest Difference, to do him that Justice. »

Such an heinous Accusation, attended with so aggravating and cruel a Circumstance, might for ever have unjustly exposed that *Gentleman* to the Malice of inconsiderate Fame, had not his *Brother* so far forgot the Misunderstandings between them as to have given the
Publick

Publiek the following Assurance of
its *Falsity*.

“ **W**HEREAS near the End
“ of the last Session of Par-
“ liament, a scandalous Reflection
“ was raised upon a certain Mem-
“ ber of the House of Com-
“ mons, nearly related to me, in-
“ sinuating that I had about that
“ Time received, by the Mistake
“ of the Bearer, a Bank-Note, or
“ Notes, for his Account and Use,
“ in a corrupt Way; which Re-
“ flection I then thought so ridicu-
“ lous that it did not deserve any
“ Notice to be taken of it; but
“ since that Report has been most
“ industriously spread, and by my
“ Silence may have gained Credit,
in

“ in meer Justice to that Gentleman’s
 “ Character, I have thought fit to
 ‘ make the following Declaration in
 “ the most solemn Manner.

“ JOHN CHAMPION,

“ of London, Merchant,

“ maketh Oath, That neither
 “ he this Deponent, nor any

“ other to this Deponent’s

“ Knowledge, did at or a-

“ bout the Time abovementi-

“ oned, or at any other Time

“ whatsoever, receive by Mi-

“ stake, or otherwise, any Let-

“ ter, Message, Bank-Bill or

“ Bills, Note or Notes, or

“ other Paper Writing what-

“ soever, as has been re-

“ ported; and that the said

C “ Report

*Report is entirely false and
groundless.*

John Champion.

Sworn at Haberdasher's-
Hall in London, the
22d Day of August,
1739, before me

Micajah Perry, Mayor.

From

From what preceeds I doubt not but this *Gentleman* must appear in the Eye of every candid and unprejudiced Judge to have *voted* (however *mistakenly*) yet *freely* and *independantly*.

This being so, it may be justly wondered how the PAMPHLETEER, who makes *Necessity* the Apology for his Writing, could publish so black and injurious a Charge; the most charitable Excuse that can be framed in his Favour is, that his *Libel* was ready for the *Press*, and he was unwilling, by one Dash of his Pen, to destroy that Part of his elaborate Performance which was the Basis of the Whole.

But to return; Since there appears nothing criminal in the Gentleman's Vote, it will not be unsuitable to the known Candor of this exemplary City, to distinguish between a Mistake in Judgment, and a Corrupt Principle.

For it may be permitted me to take Notice, that there are not wanting fresh Instances, even among our own present worthy Members, of there Voting in Parliament not entirely with the Sense of the City, and yet this was not thought a sufficient Motive for breaking into the Custom of Election, because we were satisfied that those Gentlemen had our Interest at Heart, and we were unwilling to lay them under any
Restraint

Restraint in a *Senate* where every *Member* ought to be free; and surely there is as little Reason for so doing in the Case of a *Magistrate* representing another *Place*, and no further our *Representative*, than as one of the *Representatives* of the *Nation*.

Let no Man think I offer this as a Reflection; such *Disinterestedness* and *Intrepidity* in our Members being their greatest Honour, and our best Security.

But to what has been before taken Notice of, the Author of the *Address* has thought proper to add, (which I have called his *Third Reason*) "That we might indeed be
"happy by persevering in the above

“bove Rule of Election; had not
 “we recent Examples of Persons
 “being chosen ALDERMEN by the
 “most *flagrant bare-fac’d Bribe-*
 “*ry.*” But this, I hope, was not
 intended to allude to the Magistrate
 next the *Chair*, who ’tis well known
 was raised to that Honour by the
unanimous Voice of his whole *Ward*;
 a *Ward* of too great Extent and
 Esteem for it’s Country’s Service to
 admit Success by any indirect Prac-
 tices.

I shall now remark on a *Letter*
 in the *London Evening Post* of the
 15th Instant, which is an Applica-
 tion to the *Liverymen*, whereby
 “*The Approvers of the CONVEN-*
 “*TION are desired to give their*
 “*Votes for Sir GEORGE CHAMPION*
 “and

“ *and Sir JOHN SALTER; the Dis-*
 “ *approvers of it, for Sir JOHN*
 “ *SALTER and Sir ROBERT GOD-*
 “ *SCHALL*”, which is accompanied
 with the following remarkable Sen-
 tence; “ *And I hope, Gentlemen,*
 “ *you will not give ear to any thing*
 “ *which may be insinuated of there*
 “ *being any OTHER PARTY in this*
 “ *Affair.*”

Every Well-wisher to the *City*
 must be sorry to see such *Arts of*
Division practised amongst us; and
 so confessed an Attempt to raise a
Party-Name in the *City*, which may
 as effectually serve to disunite us,
 and sever our Interests, as other *in-*
vidious Distinctions have formerly
 done that of the *NATION*; the in-
 evitable Consequence of which will
 be

be the Attachment of one Side of the *divided City* to the *Court*. If this can be once effected, we have too much Reason to apprehend that 'twill be made use of on every Occasion where the Interest of the *City* is concerned, and therefore can't be too early guarded against. For if we are to be taken by *Snares* so visible as these, we shall be at least as simple as the *Birds* in the *Fable* were, who neglected the good Advice given them, to pick up the *Hempseed* at the Time it was sown, which afterwards made Nets for their *Destruction*.

I shall next observe on an *Advertisement* in the same *Paper*, which is of so scandalous a Nature that I am almost asham'd to meddle with it;

it; but as it tends, by very unworthy Means, to slur the Credit of Mr. CHAMPION's Affidavit, (which had so fully satisfied me) I thought it became me in handling this Point to make myself thoroughly acquainted with the Facts, in order that I might not add to the Impositions on the Publick. For this End I waited on Mr. CHAMPION, who indeed seemed somewhat exasperated at the Usage given him by it, and suffered me to declare, that he has not had the least *Correspondence* with his *Brother* for several *Years past*; but that some Gentlemen in this City having acquainted him of the Credit which the Rumour of the *Bank-Bill* had met with, he, agreeable to their Opinions, voluntarily made the *Affidavit*; which, he said, he would

D

with

with Pleasure have done to have protected the Character of any other *Gentleman*, who thro' his Sides had been in like manner wounded: And he further added, That he supposed the Author of the Report made an Handle of the *Difference* still subsisting between him and his *Brother*, as imagining by his Silence to forward the Credit of the Story. And Mr. CHAMPION defied the *Advertiser*, and all his *Abettors*, to prove him worthy such Treatment, or to have his *Veracity* questioned, even where he has not added the Solemnity of an *Oath*; and promised that (to use the *Advertisers* own Words) if a "*proper Affidavit*" can be made in that Behalf, he'll forgive the *Advertiser*; but if this cannot be done, he doubts not receiving

ceiving that Justice from the *Publick*, which he must not expect from those who *shoot their Arrows in the Dark*.

There are two *Letters*, one in the *Daily Post*, and the other in the *London Evening Post* of the 20th Instant, which, perhaps, the Writers may think themselves neglected if I should forget.

The first is said to be from a SUSSEX FREEHOLDER, who in a pretty *poetical Vein*, dreams about our Similitude to the *Spectator's Beauty*, and supposes us, with great good Manners, one of the HAS BEENS. I can only tell him, he must wait till the Charms of such tinsel Rhetorick can court the City out of her

UNITY; and when that fatal *Æra* of DIVIDING comes, we may thence truly date our Decline, and sorrowfully and pathetically say, *Alas, SHE was !*

The other Letter is subscribed a *Citizen*. I hope we have not so *false* a *Brother* among us; but if he is a *Citizen*, I would advise him, that when he ventures his Thoughts in publick, he would either have a little decent Regard to *Truth*, or *lye* more to the Purpose. When he was pumping his Invention, he might at least have told us, that the *Magistrate* he is labouring to asperse, was a *Part-Owner* in some of the *GUARDA COSTA's*; or that he sent Intelligence to the *ASSOGUE* Ships, whereby they steer'd clear of
Admiral

Admiral HADDOCK. 'Tis quite paultry to do Mischief by halves. I am sorry any Person's Zeal should betray him into such *Weakness* and *Wickedness*.

There have been several other *Squibs* thrown at the Magistrate in Question, but as they contain a harmless sort of *Wildfire*, they rather tend to Diversion than call for serious Notice.

I am inclined to believe, that on a due Consideration of what has been said, our Author's Arguments and personal Calumny have very little force remaining in them among the Unprejudiced; but since in all *popular Appeals*, where the Passions are so greatly Interested, as they

they always must be in the Topicks of *Peace* and *War*, we are not suddenly calmed into a due Temper for Conviction, I hope 'twill be forgiven me, if I point out some of the very many Inconveniences into which the proposed Alteration in our customary Method of *Election*, will naturally plunge us.

Are *Union* among ourselves, and a joint and animated pursuit of the Interest of this glorious City, (which includes in it that of our *Country*) the just Ambition of every worthy *Member*? let us then be very jealous of hasty *Innovations* in Opposition to Methods whose *utility Experience warrants*. What a State of War may we hereby introduce between the several *Wards*, who now acting in

in Concert afford an Harmony which makes LONDON overtop her proudest Rivals? Every particular *Alderman* may be looked on as the *Father* of his *Ward*, and can we doubt whether when a Door is opened for putting the *Magistrate* next the Chair by, on every slight Pretence, the several *Wards* will not strive to *dignify* themselves by introducing each its *Parent* into it? New *Parties* will in Consequence hereof be formed, and new and *dividing Appellations*, in all Probability, be artfully introduced, which will require more Time and Labour to quell, than can be spared from the more *important Concerns* of our Honour and Interest. If any Thing can open a Way for the Practices of a *bad Ministry* upon our Liberties, this

this *Scheme* of Dissention bids fairest for it. I am unwilling to suspect the *Author* (who calls himself a *Liveryman*) of so black a Design, but 'tis prudent to guard against what has the most distant Tendency towards it, from whatever *Quarter* it comes; and in Proportion to the Plausibleness and Popularity of the Pretence, for introducing a Dispute of this Nature, our Care should be awakened and called for a Defence against the Delusion. Were our *Lord Mayor* a perpetual Dictator, or an uncontrouled Magistrate, we should have some Reason to search the *Honourable Court of Aldermen* for two BARNARDS before we presented for that *high Office*; but as his Power is circumscribed by the *Year*, Who is there that would not
 exert

exert himself to shine with his utmost Splendor during his *Annual Revolution* ? As far as I can inform myself, the *Gentleman* who in the present Course of Things stands in the regular Order to be called forth to *Promotion*, wants no *Ability* for discharging the Functions of it with becoming *Dignity* ; we cannot so soon forget the *envied Figure* he made when this great City happily exerted itself against extending the *Excise* ; nor his *unwearied and successful Assiduity* in the Election of an *high Officer*, who was a strenuous Opposer of that *Scheme*.

If then it be (as surely 'tis) reasonable to draw Inferences from *past Conduct* to *future*, methinks we may very warrantably expect the

E

strictest

strictest Care of our Liberties and Privileges, and the most vigorous and beneficial Endeavours for our Prosperity, from one who appears every Way *qualified* for those great Ends.

To conclude; Let us beware of *Wolves* in *Sheep's* Clothing, and of being imposed on by Pretences for *Unanimity*, which apparently tend to *Division*, and to weaken the *Strength of the Nation*. For can it be supposed that the Heats and Animosities, consequential on varying the *Method of Election*, would be but of a Day's Continuance? Or that the Project to *divide* this *City* is *primarily* the Result of the rash Councils of those who so publicly avow it? What can raise the Expectations

tations of our Enemies higher, or tend more to the Combination of POWERS against us, (*Powers* at present undetermined) than our CIVIL *Dissention*? Have we ever triumph'd in the *Terror* of the BRITISH FLAG? Have we ever disapproved of the *Convention*? And are we as jealous as we pretend to be of our *Rights of Navigation*? Have we now that Opportunity of procuring *Restitution*, and extending our *Glory*, we before wish'd for? And shall we, by a strange Infatuation, suffer that Spirit, which should invigorate all our Proceedings toward VICTORY, to be idly thrown away on a Dispute about — WHO SHALL BE THE MAGISTRATE FOR THE YEAR? Let us consider, that those who voted for the *Convention*, voted likewise a

SUPPLY to carry on the *War*; and shall we be less zealous in our *Country's* Cause than *They*? No!

We have a *Foreign Quarrel* of the last Consequence on our Hands, such as loudly demands *Harmony* at Home. Instead therefore of framing new *Parties*, rather let former *Distinctions* cease; and may this great *City*, by its memorable *Example*, influence the *Nation* to become one glorious *Party* against the common *Enemy*.

I am, GENTLEMEN,

Your most humble Servant,
and ~~Fellow Citizen~~,

J. W.

F I N I S.



By order of

*For Attorney at Law
Sergeants Inn Fleet Street Nephew in
to Sir G.*